

PROGRAM CONNECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes for

Friday, July 15, 2004

Present: Edie Sprehn, Linda Auchue, Amy Mendel-Clemens, John Rathman, Jodi Ross, Shirley Kitchen, Shirley Ross, Marilyn Putz

IMAC Site

Discussion regarding publishing the minutes to the IMAC site. Group was advised that the minutes for this meeting should be sent to Amy Mendel-Clemens for review and she will forward them to the web publisher for publishing.

Energy Services

An issue was raised by the local agencies regarding the fact that Energy Services has no access to CARES and/or T1 lines. They want to know why they can't get access to AQCS to verify eligibility. It was mentioned that some do have this access and some don't. Edie Sprehn volunteered to follow up with Tim Hine. In the meantime, John Rathman will go ahead and try requesting access through the Security Help Desk.

W-2 Funding for Refugees

The discussion of W-2 refugee funding was tabled because it will be addressed at C&I today.

IM Allocations

Jodi Ross advised the group that the IM Allocation Administrator's Memo has been written and is currently being reviewed by upper management for finalizing. The base calculation for '05 has decreased, but the Dept. is looking for an extra \$4M for IM funding. The memo should be out soon.

Burials and Transportation

Questions arose regarding Burials funding and MA transportation funding. The funding for burials is "sum certain", however, the statutes state "shall reimburse". Discussions are currently going on at the State level regarding whether or not the language will change. The group asked for an update on what is happening with the County Burial policy and process clarification/changes now that IMAC has made its final recommendations. John advised he would put it on a future IMAC agenda. The local agencies asked that the State clarify what constitutes "resources available at the time of death". The example that was shared was a Social Security check or a checking account in the deceased's name that would take some time for the family to be able to access. There is also concern that funeral homes are submitting "estimates" rather than an actual bill.

MA transportation funding, however, is "sum sufficient" and no changes have been suggested at this time.

New Worker Training

Outagamie County is hiring two workers (1 outstation person, and 1 retiree replacement) and is planning to have them hired in time for the October NWT in Oshkosh.

Child Care

Alan Sweet provided updates from Child Care. Local agencies are requesting a child care SMRF process. Alan advised that it has already been approved, however, it may not be able to be implemented until sometime next year due to the State resources required for the CARES Worker Web and the high priority given for the KIDS First project.

UI: Self-employed child care providers are collecting UI. The issue originally arose in Dane County. 4Cs took it to a fair hearing, but lost. The providers argue that because the state licenses them or certifies them, they are eligible. The Office of Child Care's position is that these providers are private contractors, not an employee of the State, County or anyone else. Alan advised that this issue has been raised to DWD Administration, legal counsel and the UI management.

CSAW (Childcare Statewide Administration on the Web): Alan shared the timeline for the implementation of this web application.

- 8/6 Production Move (15 screens will be moved from the mainframe to the web).
- 9/17 Licensed Provider Interface moves. Statewide provider file will be available on the web. Local agency staff will no longer enter this information.

Authorization Simplification Project. Childcare authorizations screens will move to the web. Eligibility will still be on the mainframe for now.

Notices redesign

Weekly notices

Additional set of rates for before/after school care

EVF

Family Planning Wavier cases are getting Employment Verification forms. It was requested these cases either not get the forms at all or that we auto-populate the information without generating an alert to the worker. This issue will be shared with DHFS policy and systems staff for consideration.

Amy Mendel-Clemens provided information regarding logic changes planned for the EVF process and asked for suggestions for changes to the form. Local agencies asked that we issue DXBMs when these changes are implemented.